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February 25, 2000

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board Office of the Secretary Case Control Unit Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 582 1925 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Dear Sir,

KILDAIR SERVICE LTD , an important supplier of heavy fuel oil , makes an intensive use of railway services both in Canada and in the U.S.

We believe that the merger between CN and BNSF will be beneficial for the users. Consequently, we think it is important that the *Surface Transportation Board* makes a fair evaluation of the CN-BNSF merger based on the improved service that should result from it, rather than on competitive arguments from other railway companies.

We understand that the *Surface Transportation Board* currently has a procedure for evaluating transactions in the railway sector in the best public interest. We wish this procedure will be used to fairly evaluate the CN-BNSF merger.

Truly Yours,

Robert Verville

Vice-president, operations & marketing

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